



**Department of Energy**  
Washington, DC 20585

AUG 16 2019

Melanie Sloan  
American Oversight  
1030 15<sup>th</sup> St N.W.  
Suite B255  
Washington, D.C. 20005

Via email: [foia@americanoversight.org](mailto:foia@americanoversight.org)

Re: HQ-2019-01153-F

Dear Ms. Sloan:

This is the final response to the request for information that you sent to the Department of Energy (DOE) under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552. You requested:

Records sufficient to identify any and all contracts between the following agencies and (a) the below-listed individuals who were nominated but not confirmed to serve in the listed agencies or (b) any legal entities operated by or on behalf of the listed individuals:

- \* U.S. Department of Energy
- o David S. Jonas

Please provide all responsive records reflecting contracts entered into from January 20, 2017, through the date of the search.

In email correspondence on July 26, 2019 between Christine H. Monahan of your office, and Ms. Anjelica Ruda of my office, you indicated that the legal entity to include in the scope of our search was Fluet Huber & Hoang PLLC (aka Fluet Huber + Hoang PLLC). You also noted the following:

In providing this information, we note that to the extent that your search uncovers records sufficient to identify contracts between your agency and another legal entity that is not listed above but appears to be operated by or on behalf of Mr. Jonas, such records should be considered responsive to our request and we expect them to be produced. Furthermore, to the extent the agency is otherwise already aware of any other legal entities operated by or on behalf of Mr. Jonas, we expect that those entities would be included within the scope of the search as well.

Your request was assigned to DOE's Office of Management (MA) to conduct a search of its files for responsive documents. MA started its search on August 7, 2019, which is the cut-off date for



responsive documents. MA has completed its search but did not locate any documents responsive to your request.

Therefore, pursuant to Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.) § 1004.4(d), I am unable to provide any responsive documents for MA. Pursuant to 10 C.F.R. § 1004.7(b)(2), I am responsible for the determination that no responsive records exist in MA.

The adequacy of the search may be appealed within 90 calendar days from your receipt of this letter pursuant to 10 C.F.R. § 1004.8. Appeals should be addressed to Director, Office of Hearings and Appeals, HG-1, L'Enfant Plaza, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20585-1615. The written appeal, including the envelope, must clearly indicate that a FOIA appeal is being made. You may also submit your appeal by e-mail to [OHA.filings@hq.doe.gov](mailto:OHA.filings@hq.doe.gov), including the phrase "Freedom of Information Appeal" in the subject line (this is the method preferred by the Office of Hearings and Appeals). The appeal must contain all the elements required by 10 C.F.R. § 1004.8, including a copy of the determination letter. Thereafter, judicial review will be available to you in the Federal District Court either (1) in the district where you reside, (2) where you have your principal place of business, (3) where DOE's records are situated, or (4) in the District of Columbia.

You may contact DOE's FOIA Public Liaison, Alexander Morris, FOIA Officer, Office of Public Information, at 202-586-5955, or by mail at MA-46 Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20585, for any further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request. Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov); telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

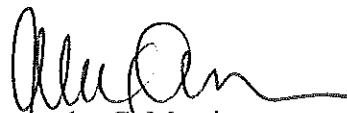
The FOIA provides for the assessment of fees for the processing of requests. *See* 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(i); *see also* 10 C.F.R. § 1004.9(a). In our July 10, 2019, letter, you were informed that your request had been placed in the "other" category for fee purposes. Requesters in this category are entitled to two (2) free hours of search time and are provided 100 pages at no cost. DOE's processing costs did not exceed \$15.00, the minimum amount at which DOE assesses fees. Thus, no fees will be charged for processing your request.

If you have any questions about the processing of the request or this letter, you may contact me or Ms. Neichole Linhorst in this office at:

MA-46/Forrestal Building  
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20585  
(202) 287-6831

I appreciate the opportunity to assist you with this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alex Morris', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Alexander C. Morris  
FOIA Officer  
Office of Public Information